

CUB SCOUTS AID TOYS FOR TOTS



Scouts from Cub Scout Pack 232, Gate of Heaven Church, Dallas, recently collected new unwrapped toys for the U.S. Marines Corps Toys for Tots Campaign. Shown in the photo are Master Sergeant Joe Kelly, retired, U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and Cubmaster Richie Huntington, Cub Scout Pack 232. With them are, from left, first row, Gracie Huntington, Jacob Baldrice, Adam Walp, Tyler Manzoni, Santino Diana, Adam Zarola, Nathaniel Renn. Second row, Daniel Drost, Jacob English, Matthew Carty, Jake Pizzolato, Alex Hajkowski, Matthew Williams, Brennan Eggleston, Colin Marshall. Third row, Nathan Roppelt, Jacob Brennan, Christian Diana, Andre Scheuermann, Taylor Bolesta, Colin Zeiss, AJ Bednar, Tyler Osipower James Frederick, Robbie Lauer. Fourth row, Tommy Hajkowski, Matty Duffy, Cole Dewees, Logan Evanosky, Patrick Zarola, Joseph Brennan, Stephen Postupak, Patrick Reddington, Brendan Frederick. Fifth row, Justin Marshall, Michael Huntington, RJ Knorr, Scotty Williams, Nicholas Carr, Michael Caravaggio, Jacob Dragon, Jeffery Buscher, Tyler Manzoni, James Kelly. Sixth row, Michael Gatusky, Connor Duffy, Ryan Marshall, Tony Caravaggio, Tommy Broadhead, Thomas Manzoni, Matthew Blaum, Christo Huntington, Chester Brennan, Joseph Layauou, Bray Vanderhoff and Anthony Huntington.

ROSS TOWNSHIP

Sewer tank fees doubled

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

Tightening of budget strings at the state level has caused supervisors to double fees for septic tank installation and maintenance.

During Monday's year-end meeting, supervisors passed a resolution to increase sewer disposal system fees for permits and maintenance. Secretary Terry Davis said the increase will not put money into the township's account but will cover fees the township is charged by sewer enforcement officers and for permits to the residents.

Previously, residents paid for a \$190 permit fee for the installation of new septic system. Then, the cost of the sewer enforcement officers was paid through the township. At year's end, the township was reimbursed half the costs through the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act. Now with the state budget so tight, the township may not be reimbursed.

In early 2009, Secretary Terry Davis said she received a letter stating the township may not receive any reimbursements for 2008; however, the township did receive 42% of funds, about \$908.

Davis shared a newsletter dated December 2009 from the Pennsylvania State Association for Township Supervisors, known as PSATS, stating the state set aside \$3 million in October for the 2009-2010 Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, which is a "40 percent decrease from the previous year's allocation."

The letter states that PSATS will continue to fight for municipal funding from the state, but advises municipalities' state funding is scarce due to the weak economy and rising fees.

The new fees are: \$420 for application for a sewage disposal system including a percolation test, two soil probes, review of design, and final inspection.

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TIGER SCOUTS VISIT SHAVERTOWN FIRE COMPANY



Members of Tiger Cub Den of Pack 155 recently toured the Shavertown Volunteer Fire Company. The Scouts watched a short video on fire safety, got a close up look at a fire engine and met Halligan, one of three Dalmatians owned by one of the firemen. All the Scouts in attendance received one of five black beads required to earn the Tiger Cub badge. From left, first row, are Matt Cheskiewicz, Jacob Banta, Nick Zabowski and Dylan Roberts. Second row, Jerry Paxton, Shavertown Volunteer Fire Company; Zach Chamberlain, Lucas Tomko, Austin Sowga, Doug Newbigging and Ethan Shilanski. The Tiger Cubs of Pack 155 are sponsored by the Trucksville United Methodist Church and meet two Sunday evenings each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Any first-grade boy interested in joining the Tiger Cubs should contact Russ Banta, den leader, at 696-2833.

IREM WOMEN HOLD LUNCHEON



The Irem Women's Auxiliary held its Christmas Luncheon recently at the Irem Temple Country Club and was entertained by the Greater Nanticoke Mixed Chorus. Seventy stuffed animals were collected for the Shriners Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. From left, are Mrs. Cassie Munnzing, financial secretary; Mrs. Ruth Sadbar, assistant secretary; Mrs. Carol Belmont, president; Mrs. Ruth Gramps, first vice-president; Mrs. Marie Mishkel, treasurer. Absent at the time of the photo were Mrs. Nancy McCarty, secretary; and Miss Suanne Moses, second vice-president.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Supervisors approve new millage tax rate

By EILEEN GODIN
Dallas Post Correspondent

A new mill rate will have Jackson Township residents digging into their wallets deeper in 2010.

On December 23, supervisors accepted a \$1,090,816 budget which contains an increase to the mill rate from .6643 in 2009 to 1.32 for 2010. The mill rate is \$1 for every \$1,000 assessed tax value.

The earned income tax will remain at a half percent and the township has no per capita tax.

Supervisor Al Fox said the doubling of the mill rate was unfortunate but necessary to maintain all services, such as recycling, police, fire protection, snow plowing and road maintenance.

Fox broke down the numbers so residents could understand how their tax payments are divided between the county, school district, and their local municipality.

"For every dollar paid in on taxes, 60 cents goes to the school district, 35 cents goes to the county which leaves the township with just a nickel to pay for all services of-

fered to residents," he said.

Some of the driving forces behind the mill rate increase are reduced availability of grants, a 20 percent reduction in the liquid fuels money awarded to the township from the state, a 20 percent increase in ice and snow removal and \$50,000 for road paving.

Fox said the supervisors are working in the best interest of the taxpayers and noted the township has received over one million dollars in grant funding in the past.

Chairman John J. Wilkes Jr. also blamed Luzerne County Commissioners and the ill-fated property assessments.

"This was a tough budget to pass," he said. "I would like to thank county commissioners for the reassessments. If homes were assessed equally, we wouldn't have to do this."

Disgusted by the property assessments, Wilkes made a motion to allow township Attorney Jeffery Malak to check into the assessments. Motion was passed.

In other news, David Roskos was awarded a plaque for a total of 40 years of services on the Zoning Board and as a township supervisor. Roskos' term as supervisor will end and newly-elected Tim Evans will step in.



The Infection Control Department at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center recently hosted a poster contest for youngsters to illustrate the importance of good handwashing. From left, are Victoria Atkinson, first runner-up; Paulette Sebastian, Infection Control Specialist; Megan Wysocki, grand-prize winner; Margie Pace, Infection Control Manager; and Brooke Stevens, third runner-up. Absent at the time of the photo was Claudia Leu, second runner-up.

Students win poster contest

The Infection Control Department at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center recently hosted a poster contest for youngsters to illustrate the importance of good hand washing.

The winners of the inaugural contest were recently announced.

They are Megan Wysocki, 11, sixth grade, Wyoming Area School District, grand-prize winner; Victoria Atkinson, 9,

third grade, Wilkes-Barre Academy, first runner-up; Claudia Leu, 10, fourth grade, Dallas School District, second runner-up; and Brooke Stevens, 9, fourth grade, Hanover Area School District, third runner-up.

Nurses and leaders at Geisinger Wyoming Valley voted to select the winning posters. Winners received a gift card and the grand-prize winner will have her poster displayed throughout the medical center this winter.

Misericordia Nursing Dept. will introduce Career Camp in June for high school students

The Misericordia University Nursing Department is introducing a Career Exploration Camp in June for high school juniors and seniors who are interested in learning more about a rewarding career in nursing.

The three-day and two-night residential camp will offer 15 students the opportunity to gain a firsthand look at the field through a mixture of clinical, laboratory, classroom and field experiences.

Students will learn about the profession and its many specialty fields, experience

the latest interactive technology in the simulation laboratory, meet with nursing faculty and students and tour clinical sites in Northeastern Pennsylvania where licensed registered nurses practice.

Students interested in the Career Exploration Camp must have completed 11th grade and maintained a 3.0 average in all course work.

Applications will be made available online in December.

For additional information, contact Kathleen Gelso, MSN, RN, at 674-6373.